## **TOBACCO USE IN SCHOOL**

Due to the vast amount of medical evidence which demonstrates the harmful effects of tobacco use as it relates to heart, lung and gum disease and cancers of the lungs, throat, voice box and esophagus; and due to the fact tobacco is often a "gateway" drug which leads to the use of marijuana and other drugs; and due to the harmful effects of secondary smoke on others; and due to the fact that teachers, coaches, bus drivers and other personnel are perceived as role models whom school age children often admire and emulate, the policy concerning the use of the tobacco products will be as follows:

- 1. Students will not be allowed to use or possess tobacco products during school hours, at extracurricular school functions, while participating in athletic, band or other school-sponsored practices, games or functions or in transit to or from a school function as a member of a school group, team or club.
- 2. Students found to be using or possessing tobacco products at school or school functions will be subject to disciplinary action as prescribed by the Marshall County Board of Education in the Student Handbook (See Below).
- 3. Employees of the Marshall County Board of Education will not use tobacco products (cigarettes, snuff, chewing tobacco, etc.) in the presence of students during school hours, at extra-curricular activities held after school hours, whether on or off the school campus, or in transit with a student group, team or club when the employee is in charge of the students or providing supervision.
- 4. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in penalties as stipulated by the Board of Education.

## POSSESSION, SMOKING AND USE OF TOBACCO

In conforming to the state law which prohibits sale of cigarettes to children under 18 years of age, and within the recommendation of physicians as well as the Secretary of Health and Human Services that smoking is injurious to your health, smoking and the use of tobacco will not be allowed at any school in the Marshall County System (including Marshall Technical School). Penalties for violation of this rule have been established as follows:

1st Offense - Discretion of principal

2nd Offense - Automatic 3 day suspension or alternative school

3rd Offense - Automatic 5 day suspension or alternative school

4th Offense - Suspension until hearing before the Marshall County Board of Education

NOTE: TOBACCO PRODUCTS FOUND IN THE POSSESSION OF STUDENTS WILL BE CONFISCATED.